

THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

(ESTABLISHED 1877.)

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

One Dollar per Year,
Subscribers in Advance.Six months, 75 cents. No subscription for a
less period received.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

MONETARY sent in, otherwise than by registered letter, postal money order, or draft on New York, will be at the risk of the sender.

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CONTRIBUTIONS.—Correspondence is solicited from every section in regard to Grand Army, Pension, Military, Agricultural, Industrial and Home-Sold matters, and letters to the Editor will always receive prompt attention. Write on ONE SIDE of the paper only. We do not return contributions or manuscripts unless they are accompanied by a request that they be returned, and we cannot assume any responsibility for the loss of any material.

THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE,
Washington, D. C.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AS SECOND CLASS MATTER.

THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., MARCH 17, 1887.

ARTICLES FORTHCOMING.

MARCHING THROUGH ARKANSAS—

The Fight at Stewart's Plantation. By Gen. Albert T. Brantley, Colonel, 3d U. S. Car.

THE CITY OF CHARLESTON.—Its Abandonment by the Confederates and its Occupation by the Federal Forces. By James T. Harland, 12th N. Y., New York City.

PAPA'S JACK.—A Charming Story. By E. A. Dudge, Brooklyn, N. Y.

HAWKINS' SHOP.—A Spirited Sketch of the Capt. N. D. Preston, 10th N. Y. Cav., Pittsburg, Pa.

SAILOR'S CREEK.—One of the Final Cavalry Charges of the War. By Hugo Mulder, Co. C, 10th N. Y. Cav., Cincinnati, O.

HAWKINS' ZOUAVES.—The First Bayonet Charge. By J. H. E. Whitney, Sergeant, Co. B, 9th N. Y., New York City.

THE VICKSBURG CAMPAIGN.—Second Paper. By Maj. Frank Seigrist, Legonport, Ind.

THE BATTLE OF POKUNKA.—A Clever Saute. By "Ole Bone," Detroit, Mich.

SATURDAY AT CHICKAMAUGA.—By S. A. McNeil, Sergeant, Co. F, 31st Ohio, Richmond, O.

"SOUTHERN LOYALISTS"—A Reply to Col. W. W. Jackson's Recent Article. By Maj. James C. Foster, 58th U. S. C. T., High, O.

PRIVATE DALZELL'S letter in another column is the straight-from-the-shoulder talk of a true soldier.

STILL BRAGG, Warner, et al., have not received their reward. When one thinks how hungry they are, this delay is refined cruelty.

AUSTRALIAN KELLY, formerly a notorious prize-fighter, has been elected Justice of the Peace in New Jersey. Lawyers who are likely to commit "contempt a court" had better provide themselves with an accident insurance policy.

To Bragg, Warner, et al., each week that goes by without their "getting anything" seems an eternity. But think how weary is the waiting in the poorhouses of the broken-down veterans for the relief that is deferred from year to year.

THE Poundmaster of New York drowned 13,000 superfluous and vicious dogs last year. What a pity that at least many more still more superfluous and vicious men of the city cannot be turned over to the Poundmaster for similar summary treatment.

THE Winchester Club, of Toledo, O., is making preparations for its annual celebration of the battle of Winchester, as will be seen by the call in another column. This is always an unusually pleasant affair, greatly enjoyed by the members of the Shields Division who are present.

THE Boston Herald started out with screeches that the Grand Army was opposed to the Dependent Pension Bill. When it was forced from this position by the overwhelming array of facts in favor of the bill, it hauled cover under the assertion that the G. A. R. only represents a small portion of the old soldiers.

THERE is a good old proverb about sauce for the goose being equally good dressing for the gander. We are reminded of this by the prohibition in Kingston, N. Y., of the will of a woman who gives her property to her husband on the condition that he remains unmarried. The other sort of thing has been so common that it is refreshing to see the women take an occasional hinting.

THE New York Evening Post sent to the newspapers of the country, to the correspondents at Washington, and we presume also to the President, a great printed sheet of letters it claimed to have received from soldiers who were opposed to the Dependent Pension Bill. Not one of them was signed by a soldier's name, or was a company or regiment given. They were all signed "Veteran," "White Star," "Appomattox," or some such "fictitious name."

TABLE OF PENSION RATES.

We have a carefully prepared table of pension rates compiled from official sources, which shows the exact ratings for every grade of disability. It is printed on heavy paper, and will be sent to any address on receipt of 15 cents.

ONLY DELAYED.

After all, it is only postponed. The passage of the Dependent Pension Bill is only a question of time, and of a very short time, too.

It appears now almost certain that the next session of Congress will adopt a measure embodying the essential provisions of the bill, and that, too, by a majority which will make it of relatively little importance whether the President signs it or not, for it can be passed over his veto.

Public opinion is rapidly changing in favor of the measure. The trade assaults of the soldier-hating and Free-Trade press carried away for the moment many who, upon sober reflection, are ready to concede the justice and policy of such legislation.

Indeed, any man who is not a rabid hater of the Union and its soldiers, or determined to abolish the protective tariff no matter what the cost, must come to this conclusion when he examines into the matter.

It is not even necessary that he should be grateful to the soldiers, or highly appreciative of their services and sacrifices. All that is needed for him to remember is that these men—broken down and needy—must be cared for, and that it is at present being done by the local taxpayers. If he is a taxpayer, this is sufficient. The "pocketbook nerve" is very sensitive in all local taxpayers, and they will incessantly over the amount of their burdens. When he sees that the Dependent Pension Bill is really a measure to lighten his own taxes, by paying out of the National surplus what he and his neighbors have had to pay out of their pockets, he is likely to perceive at once that he was very foolish to oppose the measure, and to become clamorous for its passage.

The comrades cannot do better service than to press this view upon their neighbors who now oppose the bill. It is an appeal that will go directly, not to their hearts, which it would be useless to try to touch, but to their pocketbooks, which are sure to respond.

A large majority of the people of the East, North and West are earnestly in favor of the Dependent Pension Bill as a matter of honor, of just fulfillment of the Nation's obligations to those who saved its life. When we add to those holding this sentiment those others who are eager to unload a portion of the burdens on their local treasuries upon that of the Nation, the preponderance of public sentiment in favor of it will become overwhelming.

The next session of Congress will reflect this sentiment in a manner that will astonish the present opponents of the bill.

"UNCLE SAM'S MEDALS OF HONOR."

Brig-Gen. Theodore F. Rodenbough, who has made a high reputation, and most deservedly, by his works on military subjects, is the author of still another, which will be of more popular interest than anything that he has yet written. It is, as the name indicates, a record of the medals of honor which have been given to meritorious officers and soldiers during the war of the rebellion and the Indian wars, and some account of the deeds by which they won them. Those who have read Gen. Rodenbough's previous works need not be told that his narratives are always spirited, interesting and thoroughly accurate. These qualities distinguish this book in a high degree. There can be no more fascinating book found anywhere than he has made of this. He has told the story of heroic deeds that have no superior in history, in a bright, dashing, fascinating way that thrills the reader. With each story appears a well-executed portrait of the man who performed the deed of valor and received this recognition at the hands of the Government.

The book begins with an account of the capture of a rebel color at the first battle of Bull Run by Sergt. John G. Merritt, of the 1st Minn., and similar accounts appear of deeds performed in other actions of the rebellion.

The latter part of the book is taken up with stirring accounts of gallant deeds performed in the Indian wars. These are also accompanied by pictures of noted soldiers and Indians.

It is not all bloodshed and desperate fighting either, for the General is too much of a skillful literary artist not to know what good service occasional bits of fun do in throwing the main part of the story into stronger relief. Quite a number of bright and funny little stories are thus dexterously introduced to lighten the interest of the narrative.

In the back of the book is a list of the medals of honor awarded for distinguished service during the war of the rebellion, taken from the official list compiled, under the direction of Adjt.-Gen. Drum, by Fredrick H. Stafford, of the Adjutant-General's Office. The book is published in fine style by G. P. Putnam's Sons, of New York.

DISCHARGES FROM THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.

Public Printer Benedict has carried out a determination among the one-armed and one-legged veterans and war widows of the Government Printing Office by sweeping dismissals. He signalled his entry into office by a reduction of several hundred employees. This was all right if done in the interests of the public service. But reasons for just complaint were given when an unusual proportion of those selected for dismissal were old soldiers, or soldiers' widows. This was in direct violation of the law, which expressly prohibits the discharge of this class of employees, until others who have not this claim for preference are removed. So much feeling was aroused by this that Mr. Benedict—who had not yet been confirmed—thought it judicious to restore many of this class. But he has since been confirmed, and immediately upon the adjournment of Congress many of the men and women had to again walk the plank. Among these are

many one-legged and one-armed soldiers, and others who deserved especial consideration. The Veterans' Rights' Union will undoubtedly investigate the matter, and until then we forebear further comment.

THE MEXICAN WAR.

EDITORIAL NATIONAL TRIBUNE: For the benefit of the Maguapans and the few who are applauding the President's veto, please give each of men furnished by the different States and Territories in the Mexican war. Also, the losses of each, as appears upon the record. We have a Maguapans here who claims that the battles fought in the Mexican war were terribly bloody affairs.

Yours, to E. C. and L. O. N. COOK,
Co. H, 3d Wis. Cav., and Co. A, 1st Wis. H. A.

The following table shows the official report of the number of men in the Regular Army and of the volunteers furnished by each State and Territory, with the losses of each:

State.	Who's in the Army.	Killed.	Died of Wds.	Wounded.
Regular Army, including Marines.	27,500	536	408	2,102
Alabama Volunteers.	1,235	10	10	32
Arkansas	1,000	10	10	32
California	1,000	10	10	32
Florida	1,000	10	10	32
Georgia	1,000	10	10	32
Illinois	1,000	10	10	32
Indiana	1,000	10	10	32
Iowa	1,000	10	10	32
Kentucky	1,000	10	10	32
Louisiana	1,000	10	10	32
Maryland & D. C.	1,000	10	10	32
Massachusetts	1,000	10	10	32
Michigan	1,000	10	10	32
Mississippi	1,000	10	10	32
Minnesota	1,000	10	10	32
Missouri	1,000	10	10	32
New Jersey	1,000	10	10	32
New York	1,000	10	10	32
North Carolina	1,000	10	10	32
Ohio	1,000	10	10	32
Pennsylvania	1,000	10	10	32
South Carolina	1,000	10	10	32
Tennessee	1,000	10	10	32
Texas	1,000	10	10	32
Virginia	1,000	10	10	32
Wisconsin	1,000	10	10	32
West Virginia	1,000	10	10	32
Reorganized Volunteers formed out of 12 months' Vol.	844	4	1	3
Total.	101,282	1,008	508	3,420

Every comparison of that war with the rebellion makes the fighting in the former seem pretty moderate.

For example, Gen. Taylor started out with a column of 2,300 men. The 8th of May, 1816, he encountered a force of Mexicans—estimated to be 6,000—at Palo Alto. After fighting five hours the Mexicans retreated, having lost about 100 men. The American loss was four killed and 40 wounded. The next day the battle was renewed at Resaca de la Palma, but the losses do not seem to have been reported. Taylor then pushed on to Matamoros, which he took possession of without opposition, and remained there until September, when, his force being increased to 6,625 men, he started out to attack Monterrey, which was defended by 10,000 Mexicans. The fighting began on the 19th and lasted until the 23d, when the Mexicans were driven from the last stronghold about the city. The American loss was 120 killed and 368 wounded; Mexican loss unknown. Taylor made Monterrey his headquarters, and a portion of his force was detached to Scott's column, leaving him 5,000 men.

Santa Anna took 21,000 Mexican Regulars and made a dash across the country to overwhelm and destroy Taylor before assistance could reach him. Taylor made a stand in the mountain pass of Buena Vista, where (Feb. 22, 1847) Santa Anna attacked him, and after two days' heavy fighting was driven off with a loss of 2,000 killed and wounded. The American loss in killed and wounded was 746. This ended the fighting of Taylor's army.

Gen. Winfield Scott began his part of the invasion March 7, 1847, by landing an army of 12,000 at Vera Cruz. The siege lasted until the 29th, when the castle and city surrendered. The American loss in the three weeks' fighting was 64 killed and wounded. Starting for the interior, Gen. Scott encountered the enemy strongly posted at Cerro Gordo, a mountain pass. A skillfully-manuevered flank party gained the enemy's rear, and the victory was won. The American loss was 63 killed and 368 wounded.

The next encounter with the enemy was at Contreras and Churubusco, which were decided victories. The Americans lost in the two battles 139 killed and 936 wounded. The Mexican loss was 4,000 killed and wounded. The fighting of the war was closed by the struggles of Chapultepec and Molino del Rey, at which the losses were about half those of the battles of Contreras and Churubusco.

The campaigns against Mexico were well planned and admirably fought, but almost any day during the rebellion we had battles in which the loss was greater than during the whole Mexican war.

WORK OF THE COMMITTEE ON INVALID PENSIONS.

The House Committee on Invalid Pensions of the 49th Congress performed an amount of work quite unusual in the history of Congressional Committees, and for this deserves the thanks of veterans and their friends. The records show that it was one of the hardest-working committees of either House. It prepared and secured the passage through the House of the general laws for the increase of pensions of widows and dependent parents and for the increase of pensions for maimed soldiers. Its work upon the Dependent Pension Bill is well known to all. The following tabulated statement of its business will be interesting:

Number of bills (H. R.) referred to Committee—4,257

Number of bills (Senate) referred to Committee—415

Number of petitions referred to Committee—1,328

Number of reports made by Committee—1,550

Number of private pension acts—830

Number of reports made by members of Committee—

Mason, C. C. 122

Winn, E. B. 99

Lovering, H. B. 114

Nease, W. B. 74

Seavey, J. A. 222

Taubert, W. B. 123

Phibbs, J. N. 69

Bliss, W. W. 64

Phibbs, J. N. 64

Merrill, E. N. 296

Haynes, M. A. 201

O'Hara, J. E. 100

Sawyer, J. G. 69

Conger, E. H. 124

Louitt, J. A. 14

Total 1,550

CONFEDERATE DEPENDENT PENSIONS.

The horror with which the gentlemen representing the Solid South affected to view dependent pensions was hypocrisy. They fully recognize the justice of such legislation among themselves, and most, if not all, of the States lately in rebellion have had for years laws upon their statute books making provision for those Confederate veterans who are unable to support themselves. Of course this support is not very liberal, but this is because the whole South pleads poverty, but it has been enough to establish the principle that the State owed a support to the men who broke themselves down in its service.

As early as 1866 Louisiana established a home for those who were wounded or disabled in the Confederate service, or who, having served in the Confederate army, were now diseased, enfeebled and unable to support themselves. This home, located near New Orleans, is still maintained in good style. In addition the State has given all those who lost limbs artificial ones, and nearly every year it votes a sum of money to keep these in repair and supply new ones. In 1886 a law was passed allowing every resident of Louisiana who served in the Confederate army and was seriously injured by that service to enter 100 acres of land. To get this they are required to show that they are in indigent circumstances. Widows of Confederate soldiers who were killed in the war or have died since on account of their injuries are allowed, if indigent, to enter a similar quantity of land.

South Carolina gives the disabled Confederates in her borders from \$25 to \$300 a year each, and artificial limbs for those who need them. She is contemplating the passage of a still more liberal pension law.

Alabama spends over \$100,000 a year on the disabled Confederates within her borders. She provides artificial limbs for those needing them, pays special pensions to the blind and otherwise maimed, and appropriates a sum of money each year for distribution among the needy, with the provision that no one shall get more than \$50.

Mississippi has been most generous in providing for her disabled and needy ex-Confederates. She buys artificial limbs for those who lost theirs, and exempts from taxation all the incomes and salaries of such ex-Confederates as are totally disabled, or whose income is less than \$500 a year. In addition a large sum is appropriated every year for distribution among the indigent ex-Confederates and the widows and orphans of such.

Similar provisions are made in the other States, but we have not the data at hand to speak precisely on the point.

There is no cant about "pauperizing," "encouraging perjury" and similar stuff when they are voting this relief to the Confederate veterans.

No, indeed.

WHICH IS THE BEGGAR?

There is no man in the country more clamorous as to what is due him for his military services than Gen. E. S. Bragg. He has always claimed vociferously that what he did in the army gave him the right to a first place at the public crib. He wants an office now because it will enable him to support himself better than he can by his own exertions. He is, therefore, just as truly a "pauper," just as clearly a "mendicant," just as certainly "putting up his mouth for some tea to suck," when he accepts the Judgeship—the appointment for which he is reported to have in his pocket—as the private soldier who served under him would have been in accepting \$12 a month had the Dependent Pension Bill become a law. The cases only differ in degree. The private soldier wants \$12 a month to live on, because he is physically unable to procure that amount by daily labor. Bragg wants \$4,000 a year for being a Judge or something in Washington, because for some reason or another he cannot make that much at home in the practice of his profession. He is just as much of a "beggar, a mendicant, a tea-sucker," as any man who wants to get on the pension-roll. According to his own reasoning it is a confession of everything that is low-spirited and unmanly for him to be hanging around the White House now begging for the Government to support him during the rest of his life. He was in receipt of a good salary from the very first day he entered the army. He then had a Captain's commission and emoluments; these soon became a Colonel's, and the last year of the war he had the very comfortable pay of a Brigadier-General. He is now in the prime of life, has one of the best professions in the country, has practiced it ever since he left the army, except when holding office, and should now be in a position where he need not beg for a \$4,000 Judgeship.

The same remarks will apply equally well to Apostate Warner.

WILLIAM H. CROCKER, Adjutant of Robert Chivas Post, No. 2, Department of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, writes that Gen. Bragg's statement on the floor of the House of Representatives that the largest Grand Army Post in Wisconsin had voted not to ask Members of Congress to support the passage of the Dependent Pension Bill over the President's veto is wholly untrue. Robert Chivas Post is the one alluded to by Gen. Bragg, and its records show that no such action was taken. Comrade Crocker calls on Gen. Bragg to furnish the name of the man who gave him the information.

CAPTURING A LOCOMOTIVE.

All persons wishing to engage in the canvass of this thrilling book will find it to their advantage to address THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE for terms, etc. It is one of the best-selling books of the times, and those already engaged in its sale are highly gratified at the handsome returns made. We also send the book as a premium for eight new subscribers, or for \$2 in conjunction with a year's subscription to

POSTAL SAVINGS BANKS.

It hardly seems worth while to make an argument in favor of a system of Postal Savings Banks, because the system has been so exhaustively tried in Great Britain and her colonies, Belgium, Japan, the Netherlands, France, Russia and Switzerland, and the results have been so good that the system has long since passed beyond the stage of experiment. It is only a question now whether we will continue to deprive ourselves of a good thing—one that works in every way, and works badly in none.

Great Britain was the first to adopt a Postal Savings Bank system, which she did in 1861. It was first proposed in 1857, but the private savings banks and other interests fought it so resolutely that 54 years of agitation intervened before Parliament finally passed the bill, and the system began operations with savings attachments to 300 post-offices. The first day 435 deposits were made at these, aggregating \$4,336.57.

By the close of the next year there were 2,355 offices receiving deposits, and the sum of these was \$8,270,336.27. At the close of 1880 there were 6,233 savings bank offices, which held \$14,536,382.19 to the credit of the depositors.

Incalculable good to all has resulted from this. Habits of saving have been fastened upon the entire people, frugality and thrift have taken the place of careless waste; the comfort and health of the poor have been greatly promoted, and a vast amount of capital has been gathered where it is available for the promotion of important enterprises.

So far from the savings banks being ruined—as they dreaded—they have been greatly benefited. The habit of saving induced by the system has redounded to their good, for in 1880 they had more than \$10,000,000 more on deposit than when the Postal Savings system was inaugurated.

The main features of the British system are these:

1. Deposits must not be less than one shilling (25 cents). Nor can more than £30 (\$150) be deposited in one year. When the deposits reach £1 (\$50) or more, interest is allowed at the rate of 2½ per cent. per annum.

2. At every postoffice blank forms are furnished, free of charge, upon which can be placed 12 penny (2 cents) stamps. When the card is filled up it represents a shilling deposit. It is passed in, the stamps canceled, and the shilling placed to the depositor's credit.

3. Every depositor gets a book, which enables him to draw his money or make new deposits in any Postal Savings Bank.

4. No depositor can have standing in his credit more than £200 (\$1,000).

The marvelous success of the system induced other countries to try it, and similar success has attended it in Canada, Australia, Belgium, Japan, Italy, the Netherlands, France, Russia and Switzerland, which took it up in the order named.

The bill which was introduced into the last Congress by Representative Lacey contemplated the substantial adoption of the British system. It proposed to make every money-order postoffice a savings depository. It provided that the depositor should not open his account with less than \$3, should not deposit more than \$100 in any one month, and should not have at any time more than \$500 on deposit. Ten cent "postal savings stamps" were to be issued, to be affixed to "postal savings cards," and cancelled. When these reached \$3 that sum was to be credited to the depositor on his pass-book. But small interest, if any, was to be paid on deposits, as most of the earnings of the money would be absorbed by the expense of running the system.

The enactment of such a law would put a good reliable savings bank in every village in the country. There are over 8,000 money-order offices, which would make about one for every 7,500 people. At present there are probably not more than 1,000 savings banks in the country, and these are all located in cities and towns of considerable size, leaving four-fifths of the population without any such institutions. Savings banks should certainly be as accessible as saloons, and it ought to be made as easy for a man to put a dime on deposit as it is now for him to pay it out for a glass of whisky. This would be accomplished by the passage of this bill by the next Congress, a thing that we sincerely hope to see.

The New York Sun of March 14 makes this statement in its editorial columns:

The rapidity of Mr. Cleveland's progress in political education has almost equalled the quickness of his rise in public life.

After he had voted the Dependent Pension Bill Congress was ready to pass it over the veto, but Mr. Cleveland sent for a number of Congressmen and gave them to understand in the most emphatic manner possible that he didn't wish it passed, and that he would find out who were his friends and who were not by the vote on his veto. The President's desk is said to have groined under the passionate blows of the Presidential hand for the purpose of emphasizing the owner's desire to prevent the veto from being overridden.

The success of these efforts was sufficient to win over votes enough for Mr. Cleveland's purpose. But there is a great difference between the policy of treating refractory Congressmen and the policy of serene separation from Congressional action with which Mr. Cleveland first thought to distinguish his administration from those of his predecessors. However, this change will be regarded by many as an improvement.

GEORGE G. MEADE POST, No. 5, Department of the Potomac, has inaugurated a system which we think can be generally copied to advantage. It publishes a bulletin every quarter, which shows the exact membership and financial standing of the Post, the number of gains and losses, amount paid for relief fund, number of families relieved, who has died, who has been mustered in, what changes are proposed in the by-laws, entertainments and meetings contemplated, etc. The color of the paper on which the Bulletin is printed indicates to the receiver the amount of dues he owes to the Post. White is nothing; yellow, 50 cents; green, \$1; blue, \$1.50; red, \$2.

Upon the receipt of one of the ordinary communications from the Department asking for a contribution for the relief of some specially meritorious cases, where veterans fractured their limbs and were rendered unable to support themselves, Col. J. F. McCulloch Post, Waynesburg, Pa., made the customary contribution, and then adopted resolutions presenting the cases to the President, and asking that as he had prevented the Government from doing its duty in these cases, he contribute something from his private funds to aid in relieving the distress. So far nothing has been heard from the White House in response.

Was there anything in a man's soldiering that makes him readier to swear to a lie now than his neighbor who did not go into the army?

If so, then they are right who claim that the soldiers generally are ready to perjure themselves to get a ridiculous little pension.

If, on the other hand, they are no more ready to commit perjury than other people, then it would follow, if this clamor be true, that the whole American people are liars under oath, and cannot be trusted to tell the truth where a few dollars a month can be gained by perjury.

Pleading predicament these slanderers of soldiers get themselves into, is it not?

PERSONAL.

Department Commander Jerome B. Burke, at Washington, has appointed on his staff Col. W. W. Jackson, whose articles in this paper on "Southern Loyalty" have attracted so much attention. Col. Jackson is one of the oldest soldiers in the country, having begun his military career as a drummer boy in the Black Hawk war at Fort